

Commissioner Townsend read the following statement to the Council, Media, and Citizens of Jesup:

The City of Jesup by Charter is made up of six (6) Commissioners and a Mayor. Further by Charter, the City of Jesup is a City Manager type of Government. Meaning the Commissioners set policy and the City Manager carries out those policies. Thus the City Manager is the Chief Executive Officer of the City and head of the administrative branch of the City Government, including responsibility for the proper administration of all City affairs including the accountability of all City funds and expenses.

The Mayor's duties by Charter are to preside at meetings, and shall be recognized as head of the City Government for all ceremonial purposes and by the Governor for the purposes of military law, but shall have no regular administrative duties. Further, he shall not have the right to veto, but does have the right to break commission vote ties only.

In Summation: The Mayor is a Public Relation agent for the City and its Commissioners, possessing very limited power. By Charter, it is quite evident that the Mayor must work hand in hand with the City Manager in a reasonable fashion whereby City affairs may be accomplished. This is not happening.

Now, I feel compelled to inform you of some appalling and disturbing conduct of our Mayor.

1) My own awareness and findings indicate the Mayor seems determined to have little or no productive communication with the City Manager. In his few face to face encounters with the City Manager they have been without common courtesy, very demanding, and to the point of exhibiting anger control problems. This of course, has led to non-productivity with the Mayor and has created an air of hostility for the City Manager and her staff. The City Manager is very frustrated and calls out for our help.

2) The Mayor for years has failed, as required by policy, to even discuss or much less ask for pre-approval of any of his expenses with the City Manager. Basically and simply put – the Mayor incurs expenses, submits those expenses to the City Clerk and then is reimbursed without accountability to the City, its Commissioners, or City Manager. Further it is appropriate to report that above two (2) items discussed were also prevalent for the previous City Manager.

To immediately correct some of these deficiencies, I make the following simple motion;

**I make the motion that the Mayor must discuss and have all future expenses pre-approved with the City Manager or they will probably be denied.**

Commissioner Townsend

Commissioner Johnson stated he felt there should have been some discussion on this matter before it got to this point.

Commissioner Townsend replied Council has known it's been going on, but was reluctant to say anything.

Commissioner Townsend made motion seconded by Commissioner Nichols to require the Mayor discuss and have all future expenses pre-approved by the City Manager or they will probably be denied.

Commissioner Nichols distributed copies of a request to approve a Dog Ordinance amendment. She requested the ordinance be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Commissioner Nichols stated the Chamber of Commerce had advised the Mayor for two years to not throw candy out during the Christmas parade, but he has continued to do so.

Commissioner Nichols noted anyone throwing out candy during the parade will be pulled, and not allowed to participate in future parades.

Meeting Adjourned.

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Rose Marcus Jackson  
City Clerk/Treasurer

Commissioner Reddish made motion seconded by Commissioner Townsend to dispense with the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of an ordinance to discontinue the 30-day grace period for removal of abandoned material, which causes litter, an unsafe condition, unsightly appearance or public nuisance.

All Council voted yes.

Building Inspector Thompson stated he was having problems with landlords placing evicted tenant's personal property on City right-of-way and recommended passing an ordinance to require the removal of property.

Commissioner DeWitt made motion seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an ordinance to require removal of evicted tenant's personal property, placed upon City property or right-of-way, by 5:00 p.m. the following day.

All Council voted yes.

Commissioner Drury made motion seconded by Commissioner DeWitt to dispense with the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of an ordinance to require removal of evicted tenant's personal property, placed upon City property or right-of-way, by 5:00 p.m. the following day.

All Council voted yes.

Mayor Shaw asked why a request is being made to increase the McMillan Creek Greenway Trail grant amount.

Mr Thompson explained DCA informed Downtown Director Crystal Gill in May 2007 surplus grant funds of \$7,000.00 were available for the McMillan Creek Greenway Trail, but had to be spent by the end of that month. Mr. Thompson purchased the lumber from Harris Ace Hardware, who submitted the lowest quote, without obtaining bids in order to beat the deadline.

Mayor Shaw stated City policy requires this amount of purchase to be approved by Council, and bids must be received, not quotes.

Commissioner DeWitt made motion seconded by Commissioner Townsend to approve an amendment to the McMillan Creek Greenway Trail, Phase 2 Grant.

All Council voted yes.

Commissioner DeWitt made motion to say assembled on site shall mean the same as constructed on site.

Motion died from lack of second.

Commissioner DeWitt made motion seconded by Commissioner Drury to adopt an amendment to the zoning ordinance for single family homes to state assembled on site means the same as constructed on site. However, manufactured housing cannot be assembled or constructed on site.

All Council voted yes.

Commissioner DeWitt made motion seconded by Commissioner Reddish to dispense with the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of an zoning ordinance for single family homes to state assembled on site means the same as constructed on site. However, manufactured housing cannot be assembled or constructed on site.

All Council voted yes.

Pastor Kendal Shaw was present to request approval to rent the Martin Luther King building and utilize it as a child care center.

City Manager Woodard explained the C.D.B.G. grant prohibits the City from renting the building to any non-governmental agency until the required 20-year period has been satisfied and the City may need this building to house the Police Department.

The following appointments were made to the Tree Board:

Commissioner Townsend  
Commissioner Drury  
Commissioner Nichols

Mr. James Johnson  
Ms. Mary Ann Collins  
Ms. Merle Cockfield

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The City of Jesup Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 05, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber. Mayor Herb Shaw called the meeting to order. Roll call was as follows:

Mayor, Herb Shaw	Present
Commissioner, Gerald DeWitt	Present
Commissioner, Lauren Drury	Present
Commissioner, James Johnson, Sr.	Present
Commissioner, Geneva Nichols	Present
Commissioner, Ricky Reddish, Sr.	Present
Commissioner, Bobby Townsend	Present
City Attorney, Alvin Leaphart	Present
City Manager, Onda Woodard	Present
Police Chief, Butch Hutcheson	Present

City Attorney Leaphart led the Lord's Prayer.

Police Chief Hutcheson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Nichols made motion seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes dated January 15, 2008.

All Council voted yes.

Commissioner Johnson made motion seconded by Commissioner Drury to adopt a contract with Wayne County, who would contract with Odum and Screven, to provide animal control service.

All Council voted yes.

Commissioner Townsend made motion seconded by Commissioner Reddish to approve the 2008 Alcohol license application for Laredo Mexican Restaurant located at 723 N. First Street.

All Council voted yes.

City Manager Woodard informed Council a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant was available for paving projects, and asked Council did they want to proceed with application.

Commissioner DeWitt made motion seconded by Commissioner Reddish to apply for a 2008 Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$500,000.00, with a \$25,000.00 cash match for paving.

All Council voted yes.

Commissioner DeWitt made motion seconded by Commissioner Townsend to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an ordinance to increase the water cut-on fee from \$20.00 to \$30.00, effective March 01, 2008.

All Council voted yes.

Commissioner DeWitt made motion seconded by Commissioner Reddish to dispense with the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of an ordinance to increase the water cut-on fee from \$20.00 to \$30.00, effective March 01, 2008.

All Council voted yes.

Building Inspector Truett Thompson was present and requested the 30-day grace period be discontinued for abandoned material, which causes litter, an unsafe condition, unsightly appearance or public nuisance.

Commissioner Nichols made motion seconded by Commissioner Drury to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an ordinance to discontinue the 30-day grace period for removal of abandoned material, which causes litter, an unsafe condition, unsightly appearance or public nuisance.

All Council voted yes.